

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner states that the inventions of Groups I and II are related as process of making and product made under M.P.E.P. § 806.05(f) and that the product, as claimed, can be made by another and materially different process such as the conventional method in which the sintering of an electronic ceramic is performed in an atmosphere saturated with bismuth and lead.

However, it can be seen that the relationship between the claims of Group I and II is product and process of use under M.P.E.P. § 806.05(h), since the compositional buffer of the claims of Group I is used in a method for manufacturing an electronic ceramic in the claims of Group II by covering the surfaces of the fine crystal grains that make an electronic ceramic with the compositional buffer of the claims of Group I. It is clear that process set forth by the Examiner as a materially different process is not relevant to the process of using the product of Group I set forth in Group II. Therefore, since the requirements for restriction set forth in M.P.E.P. § 806.05(h) have not been met, it is requested that the claims of Groups I and II be rejoined and examined in the present application.

Further, Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that thousands of U.S. Patents have issued in which many more than two subclasses have been searched, and the Patent and Trademark Office cannot reasonably assert that a burden exists in searching only two subclasses.

Finally, if the claims of Group I are ultimately found allowable, it is requested that the claims of Group II be rejoined under M.P.E.P. § 821.04 and allowed in the present application also.

Accordingly, for the reasons presented above, it is submitted that the Patent and Trademark Office has failed to meet the burden necessary to sustain the Restriction Requirement. Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.


Respectfully submitted,

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